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ABSTRACT

This guide is intended to help library patrons of the Atkins Library (at the University of North Carolina Charlotte) find sources of criticism on African-American literature. The guide explains important reference sources in the reference collection of the library and how to find biographical and critical information in books and periodicals. The guide presents brief descriptions and the call numbers for 71 items in the collection. The guide is divided into the following sections: general references works, books, individual bibliographies, bibliographies on more than one author, short stories, poetry, drama, book reviews, children's literature, and periodical indexes. (RS)

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AFRICAN-AMERICAN LITERATURE: Finding Biographical and Critical Sources

ED 366 975

CS214226

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AFRICAN-AMERICAN LITERATURE:
FINDING BIOGRAPHICAL AND CRITICAL SOURCES

Compiled by Judith Van Noate
Reference Librarian
Reference Unit, Atkins Library, UNC-Charlotte

This guide is intended to help you find sources of criticism on African-American literature (long fiction, short fiction, poetry, drama). It explains important reference sources in the Atkins library reference collection and how to find biographical and critical information in books and periodicals.

It is arranged as follows:

1. GENERAL REFERENCE WORKS may be used for any author and all forms of literature).....1-5

   a. Background information.....1-2

   b. Biographical and critical information.....2-5

2. BOOKS on individual authors and their work.....5

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REFERENCE BOOKS: BACKGROUND INFORMATION

If you are looking for information about an author and are not sure where to begin, or if you need some basic information about a type or genre of literature, the following are good sources.

Ref
PS
21
H3
1983

Oxford Companion to American Literature

Short "overview" type biographical sketches. A particularly useful feature of this book is the "Chronological Index," pp. 861-896, which "is a year-by-year outline in parallel sequence of ...social and literary history..."

Ref
PS
153
N5
R65
1990

Harlem Renaissance and Beyond: Literary Biographies of 100 Black Women Writers 1900-1945

Biographical entries--some are several pages long--with lists of primary and secondary sources.

Ref
PS
153
N5
S5

Living Black American Authors: A Biographical Directory

Brief biographies, title index and index to publishers. Published in 1973.

Ref
PS
153
N5
S65

Black Plots & Black Characters: A Handbook for Afro-American Literature

Includes: Part 1, concise summaries of novels, plays, long poems; Part 2, biographical sketches of authors with bibliographies of their works; Part 3, a general bibliography for Afro-American history and literature; Part 4, a chronological index. Author index to Part 1 on pp. 455-456. Published in 1979.

Ref
PS
153
N5
P3
1985

Selected Black American, African, and Caribbean Authors: A Bio-bibliography

Contains biographical information on 632 literary and non-literary writers. Lists of works by authors are limited to published books. This recent (1985) work is well formatted, comprehensive and easy to use. Occupational and title indexes.

Ref
PS
153
N5
P3

Selected Black American Authors:
An Illustrated Bio-Bibliography

Includes writers from a variety of disciplines -- historians, social scientists, theologians, as well as authors of fiction, poetry, etc. Covers colonial times to 1977. Biographical entries with lists of works and portraits.

REFERENCE BOOKS:
BIOGRAPHICAL AND CRITICAL INFORMATION

Gale Literary Criticism Series

This group of reference works provides a comprehensive source for biographical and critical information on authors. Those that may be most useful for your research include:

Ref
PS
153
N5
B556
1992
3 vols.

Black Literature Criticism (BLC)

"Excerpts from Criticism of the Most Significant Works of Black Authors over the Past 200 Years" Similar in format to the other Gale Literary Criticism Series described below--excerpts of criticsism. However, this set does contain some biographical material. There is some duplication of material from CLC, TLC, NCLC and some new material. The set is complete in three volumes.

Ref
PN
771
C59

Contemporary Literary Criticism (CLC)

CLC "presents significant passages from published criticism of works by today's creative authors." Citations are given for each excerpt (you can then go to P.A.S.L. or ALADDIN to find the journal with the full text of the criticism). Entries are several pages long. Use the "Cumulative Index to Authors" at the end of the last volume in the series for the fullest coverage of an author.

Ref
PN
451
D52
1978

Dictionary of Literary Biography (DLB)

Biographical--a good overview of an author's life and work. Articles are fairly long. Selected volumes of the Dictionary of Literary Biography deal with authors of specific literary movements and genres. Use the index in the back of the latest volume or the "Index to Authors" in the last volume of CLC. Several volumes are devoted to Afro-American authors.

Ref
PS
129
D48
1982

Dictionary of Literary Biography Documentary Series (DLB-DS)

"Depicting the Lives and Work of Authors--Including Photographs, Manuscript Facsimiles, Letters, Notebooks, Interviews, and Contemporary Assessments"--from frontispiece. Each volume is devoted to only a few major authors. Many illustrations.

Ref
PS
221
D5

Dictionary of Literary Biography--Yearbook (DLB-Y)

Summarizes "current literary activity." Gives an update of the author's work, discusses new books and other writings and includes a bibliography (with full citations) of the author's publications, interviews, etc. for the period encompassed by the yearbook.

Ref
PN
761
N5

Nineteenth-Century Literature Criticism (NCLC)

"Excerpts from Criticism of the Works of Novelists, Poets, Playwrights, Short Story Writers, Who Died between 1800 and 1900, from the First Published Critical Appraisals to Current Evaluations."

Covers a variety of genres and nationalities. An entry on an author consists of the following: author heading, biographical and critical introduction, principal works, excerpts of criticism (with citations) and additional bibliography. Entries are extensive.

Ref
PN
771
T83

Twentieth-Century Literary Criticism (TCLC)

TCLC is arranged like CLC but covers authors who died between 1900-1960, while the latter covers authors who are, for the most part, still living. Excerpts of criticism with full citations. Entries are long. In the case of multiple inclusions of an author, criticism is taken from different sources.

ADDITIONAL BIOGRAPHICAL AND CRITICAL SOURCES

Ref
PS
153
N5
A344
1991

African American Writers

"an introduction to the work of African American writers who have made a significant contribution to African American and United States letters, culture, and history..."

Articles include brief biographies, "a survey of the subject's principal writings and an assessment of the work as a whole." Also included are selected bibliographies of the subject's writings in chronological order, and lists of references for further research.

Ref
PS
147
A4

American Women Writers: A Critical Reference Guide From Colonial Times to the Present

"[C]overs contributions to American writing by women from colonial times to the present." Entries are critical and biographical with bibliographies of the author's works. References are given for further study. Length of articles vary according to the author's significance. Four volumes, published in 1979. Use for major Afro-American women authors.

Ref
PS
129
A552

American Writers

Long, in-depth articles containing biographical and critical information. Each article contains a bibliography of sources of criticism. A very useful source, but only for major (well known) authors. Four volumes plus several supplements (PS129 A552).

Ref
Z
1229
N39
R87
2 vols.

Black American Writers Past and Present: A Biographical and Bibliographical Dictionary

A source for biographical information, a listing of all the books published by a given author, partial information about the works published in anthologies and periodicals.

Ref
Z
1229
N39
F67
1988

Southern Black Creative Writers 1829-1953: Bibliographies

Includes biographical material, works, references. For in-depth research. Many of the authors included are not well known.

Ref
PR
821
C7
1983

Magill: Critical Survey of Long Fiction

This is a multivolume set. It consists of long biographical and analytical entries with background information on the works and their sources. Use for well known, major Afro-American authors.

BOOKS:
BOOKS ON INDIVIDUAL AUTHORS

Although proper names for people and places, etc. are not included in Library of Congress Subject Headings, they can be used as subjects in ALADDIN or the card catalog. Therefore, to find biographies, books of criticism or bibliographies concerning the works of a specific author, simply type s/ (for a subject search of that author), and then enter the author's last name, first initial. At this point, scan the list of entries until you find the appropriate subheading (for example --bibliography, --criticism and interpretation, --biography)

Example:

s/hurston zora
J. Murrey Atkins Library----VTLS/ALADDIN------SUBJECTS
YOU SEARCHED: s/hurston zora

1> 4 Hurston, Zora Neale.
2. 1 Hurston, Zora Neale -- Bibliograhpy.
3. 1 Hurston, Zora Neale -- Biography -- Juvenile literature.
4. 1 Hurston, Zora Neale -- Criticism and interpretation.
5. 1 Hurston, Zora Neale, in fiction, drama, poetry, etc.
6. 1 Hurston, Zora Neale. Jonah's gourd vine.
7. 1 Hurston, Zora Neale -- Juvenile literature.

INDIVIDUAL BIBLIOGRAPHIES

If you are doing in depth research on an author, the best place to begin your search is with a bibliography devoted to the work of that author. Bibliographies will frequently be divided up by the titles of poems, stories etc. and will direct you to criticism on a particular work. Disadvantages are that bibliographies may not be up to date; you will need to use additional sources if you need recent or current criticism. Also, they are not available on every author.

Use ALADDIN to find bibliographies concerning the works of a specific author. Type s/ (for a subject search for books about an author), and then enter the author's last name and first initial. Example: **s/baldwin, j**

At this point, scan the list of the author's name and birth (and death) dates for the subheading --bibliography.

If you need additional help with locating books, please ask a librarian at the 1st floor reference desk.

BIBLIOGRAPHIES ON MORE THAN ONE AUTHOR

(NOTE: Some of these sources will be more useful than others. Some of the resources they give will require the use of Inter-Library Loan. Also, some of these bibliographies are fairly old, you will need to use periodical indexes and other reference sources for more recent information.).

Ref
Z
1229
N39
M37

Afro-American Fiction, 1853-1976: A Guide to Information Sources

Index to novels, short story collections, criticism (Chapter 3, "Major Authors -- Secondary Sources"), and bibliograpies. Author, title, and subject indexes.

Ref
Z
1229
N39
P4

Afro-American Literature and Culture Since World War II: A Guide to Information Sources

A guide to writings and literature on a wide variety of topics. Part 1 is arranged by individual author. Part 2 is an index to author, title, and subject. Annotated.

Ref
Z
1229
N39
H68

The Afro-American Novel 1965-1975: A Descriptive Bibliography of Primary and Secondary Material

Divided into four categories: biography, novels by the authors, critical books and articles by and about the author, and reviews of the novel. Arranged by author. Annotated. Published in 1977.

Ref
Z
1229
N39
J67
1993

A Bibliographical Guide to African-American Women Writers

Arranged alphabetically by author with primary sources listed first and then secondary sources. In addition to books, this volume also lists stories, poems, etc. published in magazines, journals and anthologies. The time period covered is 1746-1991.

Ref
Z
1229
N39
F34

Black American Fiction: A Bibliography

A list of black American authors, their fiction and criticism. Categories listed under authors include: novels, short fiction, book reviews, biography and criticism. Arranged alphabetically by author.

Ref
Z
1361
N39
D45

Black American Fiction Since 1952:
A Preliminary Checklist

A list of titles of fiction works by black authors. Deals with the years 1952-1969. Some annotations.

Ref
Z
1229
N39
G57
1989

Black American Women in Literature:
A Bibliography, 1976 Through 1987

"The book includes [references to] the poetry, short fiction, novels, essays and plays by, and criticism of, approximately 300 women whose work has been published in periodicals and anthologies between 1976 and 1987..."

The book is arranged alphabetically by author. References to primary sources are given first, then works about the author or her writings. Abbreviations are explained in the back of the book.

Ref
Z
1229
N39
W47
1989

Black American Women Novelists
An Annotated Bibliography

References to books, journal articles, reviews and articles in the mass media. The author has "attempted to include all black women novelists recognized as major figures in any published book in the field of Afro-American studies.

This is an important source for references to biographical and critical information on Tony Morrison, Zora Neale Hurston, Gwendolyn Brooks, Alice Walker, and for sources of background information on Afro-American fiction and Afro-American women. Extensively annotated, indexed.

Ref
Z
1361
N39
I78

Black Studies: A Bibliography

See pp. 86-92: "Biography, Memoirs, Auto-biography." Good source for anthologies of writings by black authors. Published in 1973.

Tower
Z
1229
N39
C57
1985

Black Writers in New England: A Bibliography With Biographical Notes

An index to the collection of Afro-American literature housed at the Mildred F Sawyer Library, Suffolk University, Boston, Massachusetts. Includes: biographical notes, books by the writer and books about the writer. The focus is on authors with New England connections. Note: kept in Tower.

Tower
Z
1229
N39
B34

Broadside Authors and Artists: An Illustrated Biographical Directory

Biographical information on authors originally published by Broadside Press (dedicated to the publication of poems and other writings by black writers). Includes author's addresses and lists of writings. Some references. Note: kept in tower.

Ref
Z
1361
N39
W5

A Century of Fiction by American Negroes -- 1853-1952: A Descriptive Bibliography

In alphabetical order by author. Useful introductory essay. Annotated. Published in 1955.

Ref
Z
1361
N39
N67

Checklist of Twentieth Century Black American Creative Writing in the Libraries of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Bibliography of items available at UNC-CH. Arranged by author. Use for in-depth research. Published in 1972.

Ref
Z
1229
N39
K34

Index to Black American Literary Anthologies

An aid to "locating Black American literature which has been published in collections." The emphasis is on adult literature -- autobiographies, dramas, essays, fiction, poetry. Author index, title index and a list of anthologies. Published in 1979.

Ref
Z
1229
N39
C35
1983

Index to Black American Writers in Collective Biographies

References to biographical information on approximately 1,900 black American writers. See "Symbols and the Sources They Represent," (pp. 23-46) for full citations. Published in 1983.

Ref
Z
6511
M25

Magill's Bibliography of Literary Criticism

This is an excellent source for criticism, but will be useful mainly for major authors. Arranged by author with titles of individual works arranged under author entries. Four volumes; title index in Vol. 4.

SHORT STORIES: SOURCES FOR CRITICISM

Ref
Z
1229
N39
Y36
1986

The Afro-American Short Story: A Comprehensive, Annotated Index with Selected Commentaries

Author and title indexes, chronology of when stories were published with cross references to author and commentaries. Three hundred authors and over eight hundred fifty stories are listed. Published in 1986. Use this as a source for locating primary sources in anthologies, collections, periodicals.

Ref
PN
3321
C7

Magill: Critical Survey of Short Fiction

This is a very useful source for criticism of short fiction. Biographical and analytical entries. Short bibliographies at the ends of articles. An author/title index is located in the back of volume 7. Volumes 1 and 2 contain essays on the history and craft of short fiction from various cultures and time periods.

Ref
PN
3373
S56

Short Story Criticism

Similar to Contemporay Literary Criticism. Entries consist of excerpts of criticism with full citations. (You may then go to P.A.S.L. or ALADDIN to locate the complete text of the criticism). Entries are several pages long. There is a Story Title Index and a Cumulative Index which cross references to the entire Gale series.

Ref
Z
5917
S5
W33

Twentieth Century Short Story Explication: Interpretations, 1900-1966 of Short Fiction Since 1800, 2nd. ed.

This is a useful checklist of criticism on short stories; organized by author and story title. Includes major authors from America and England as well as several other non-English-language countries. Author index.

Updated by:

Ref
Z
5917
S5
W33
1977

Twentieth Century Short Story Explication: Interpretations, 1900-1975, of Short Fiction Since 1800.

Full citations of the books used are listed in the back of the book under the name of the critic. Index to authors. Various supplements to these volumes are shelved with them.

Indexed in:

Ref
Z
5917
S5
W332
1992

Twentieth Century Short Story Explication: An Index to the Third Edition and its five supplements, 1961-1991

You may need to ask a librarian for help in using this index, but it is quite useful.

POETRY: SOURCES FOR CRITICISM

REFERENCE BOOKS

(useful for background information on poets)

Ref
PR
603
C6
1980

Contemporary Poets

"The entry for each poet consists of a biography, a complete list of separately published books, and a signed essay." Articles are two to three pages long.

Ref
PR
502
C85
1992

Magill's Critical Survey of Poetry

"...a comprehensive overview of poets, their works, and the poetic genre in general." This is a good source for beginning your research. Biographical information and analysis of major poems. Arranged alphabetically by poet. The index to poets and poem titles is in Volume 8.
A circulating edition is kept in the tower.

POETRY: SOURCES OF CRITICISM ON INDIVIDUAL POEMS

The titles listed here are arranged alphabetically by poet, and then, by title of the poem.

Ref
Z
1231
P7
A44
1984

American and British Poetry, A Guide to the Criticism, 1925-1978

One of the best places to start your search. Comprehensive. Includes criticism on poems of 1000 lines or less. Sources include books and journal articles. Full citations are in "Sources," pp. 475-486. Arranged alphabetically by poet.

Ref
PR
89
C5

An Index to Criticisms of British and American Poetry

"A ready-reference source for criticisms of poems by British and American poets." Covers "from the earliest period to the twentieth century." Entries are to citations in collections of criticism and in scholarly periodicals.

Part 1 lists poets (arranged alpgabetically), poem titles, and critic citations. Citations for criticism give the critic's name, page and entry number in brackets. Look up the critic's name in Part 2 to find the complete citation. A "List of Periodical Abbreviations" is on page X. There is an index to poem titles on pages 271-307.

The citations are to articles and essays published between 1960 and 1970. Complicated to use, but you might find what you need here. Published in 1973.

Ref
PN
1010
P64

Poetry Criticism

Another title from the Gale Literary Criticism Series. ". . .substantial critical excerpts and biographical information on the world's most frequently discussed and studied poets. . ." An ongoing series. The cumulative author index in the back of the newest volume will direct you to the correct volume of Poetry Criticism for your poet as well as other titles in the Gale Literary Criticism Series.

Ref
Z
2014
P7
K8

Poetry Explication: A Checklist of Interpretation Since 1925 of British and American Poems Past and Present

A source for criticism on major poems of British and American authors. References are primarily to journal articles. Arranged alphabetically by poet and poem title. An important source. Up to date through 1978.

Supplemented by:

Ref
Z
1231
PZ
L46
1989

Guide to American Poetry Explication
Vol. 2: Modern and Contemporary

and

Ref
Z
1231
P7
R66
1989

Guide to American Poetry Explication
Vol. 1: Colonial and Nineteenth Century

These volumes update Poetry Explication. They give sources for criticism in journals and books. Arranged by poet and then by poem title. Abbreviations to journal titles are in the front. Full citations to books are in "Main Sources Consulted" at the back of the volumes.

POETRY: SOURCES FOR IN-DEPTH RESEARCH

(Use for less well known authors)

The following titles are useful for more extensive or in-depth research. Some of the references in these bibliographies may require the use of Interlibrary Loan (ask at the reference desk).

Ref
Z
1229
N39
A37

Afro-American Poetry and Drama, 1760-1975: A Guide to Information Sources

This is volume 17 of the "Gale Literatures in English" series. It is comprehensive -- "the authors have tried to include all books and pamphlets of poetry by black authors born in the United States" and all plays of published black playwrights. Part 1 includes references to critical and historical studies relating to Afro-American poetry. Part 2 is arranged alphabetically by poet. Primary works are listed first, followed by secondary works. Part 2, the drama section, is arranged as follows: 1) a brief list of major library

sources, 2) a list of Afro-American drama periodicals, 3) a list of general bibliographies, 4) collections of plays, 5) critical studies. Next is an alphabetical listing of playwrights with references to "published plays, unpublished plays, collected plays, biography and criticism." Author, title and subject indexes. Published in 1979.

Ref
Z
1231
P7
M37
1986

The Bibliography of Contemporary American Poetry, 1945-1985: An Annotated Checklist

This bibliography is a source of bibliographical studies on contemporary American poets. Entries are arranged alphabetically by poet. The individual "writings" concentrates on poets whose reputations have been established since 1945.

Ref
Z
1229
N39
C45
1986

Index to Poetry by Black American Women

If you need to locate a poem by a Black American Woman, this book will lead you to it. "In all, over four thousand poems by over four hundred female poets are included. . .The volume is organized in three major sections: the Title and First Line Index, the Author Index, and the Subject Index." Abbreviations are explained in the "Key to Abbreviations for Books Indexed."

Ref
Z
1361
N39
P6

North American Negro Poets: A Bibliographical Checklist of Their Writings, 1760-1944

"Books and pamphlets by individual poets: anthologies edited by Negro authors and a few printed broadsides." Gives locations for items. Most items would require inter-library loan.

DRAMA: SOURCES FOR CRITICISM

REFERENCE BOOKS

In addition to standard sources such as the Gale Literary Criticism Series, you might find the following useful.

Ref
Z
1229
N39
A7

Black American Playwrights, 1800 to the Present: A Bibliography

Lists "black playwrights and their works, together with criticisms, reviews and awards." Includes a general bibliography with full citations, and an index of titles. Published in 1976. Updated by More Black American Playwrights: A Bibliography, which adds an additional three hundred authors. (Ref Z1229 N39 A73). Published in 1978. Both of these are good sources for reviews.

Ref
PS
153
N5
P44
1990

Early Black American Playwrights and Dramatic Writers: A Biographical Directory and Catalog of Plays, Films, and Broadcasting Scripts

Includes biographical material, an annotated list of major works, lists of "Other Pertinent Writings" and sources for further reference.

Ref
PN
1721
C74
1985
6 vols.

Magill: Critical Survey of Drama, English Language Series

Long biographical and analytical entries. Short bibliographies at the ends of articles. Author/title index is located in the back of Vol. 6. Analytical synopses of major plays. This is an excellent source for criticism.

DRAMA: CHECKLISTS AND COLLECTIVE BIBLIOGRAPHIES

Ref
Z
1231
D7
P3
1979

American Drama Criticism, Interpretations, 1890-1977

"Interpretations of American plays published in books, periodicals, and monographs...alphabetical by playwrights, with plays alphabetized under the playwright's name."

Updated by a supplement (Ref Z1231 D7 P3 1984).

Ref
Z
1231
D7
C6

Drama Criticism
Vol. 1, 1966

Vol. 1: A checklist of interpretations since 1940 of English and American Plays--from the earliest known plays to those of the 20th century. This source gives references to criticism appearing in periodicals and books published between 1940 and 1964.

Ref
Z
5781
C37
1986

Modern Drama: Scholarship and Criticism, 1966-1980, an International Bibliography

"[A] classified, selective list of publications [books and journals] on world drama since Ibsen." Approaches drama as literature. Entries are arranged by nationality and then alphabetically by playwright. Listings are extensive but not subdivided by play titles. See abbreviations (pp. 3-14) for full titles of journals. This bibliography is a major reference source for drama criticism; however, some of the sources cited will require interlibrary loan.

Ref
Z
5781
R47
1986

Research Guide to Bibliography and Criticism: World Drama

Includes for each author: annotated bibliographies of sources for biographies, autobiographies, critical sources, and a list of additional sources, including relevant dictionaries and encyclopedias. Indexed. An excellent reference for in-depth research on a playwright.

BOOK REVIEWS

For some authors, book reviews may be the only source of criticism you will be able to find. For other authors, book reviews are excellent supplements to the information located in books and reference works.

The two best sources for book reviews are:

INDEX Z 1219 C95 — Book Review Digest

"Book Review Digest provides excerpts and citations to reviews of current fiction and non-fiction written in English. Arranged by author and then by book title. Use the index for the year your book was first published and the following year's index.

Yearly since 1905.

INDEX Z 1035 A1 B6 — Book Review Index

Indexes more sources than Book Review Digest, but does not provide excerpts. Begins with 1965. 1965 through 1968 are yearly volumes. 1969 through 1979 are cumulated and after that the index is again yearly. Entries are arranged by author and then by book title. Codes for sources are explained in the front of each volume.

See also the book review sections at the ends of:

Humanities Index (INDEX AI3 R492)

Library Literature (INDEX Z666 S211)

InfoTrac is also an excellent source for book reviews written within the past five to ten years. Be sure to consult both parts of the "Expanded Academic Index" and the "Newspaper Index."

CHILDREN'S LITERATURE

Ref Z 1037 R63 1988	Black Authors and Illustrators of Children's Books: A Biographical Dictionary "[A]. . .reference volume in which the works of black authors and artists are recognized in relation to their particular contributions to children's literature." The 115 entries are to 20th century authors or illustrators. Arrangement is alphabetical. Contains a selected bibliography of primary sources. There are no references to criticism.
Tower Z 1361 N39 B2 1971	The Black Experience in Children's Books Geographical and thematic approach. Annotated. Published in 1971. Two volumes. Kept in the tower.

PERIODICAL INDEXES

Most journals are indexed in one or more periodical indexes. Indexes range from the very broad in scope to those more specialized by discipline. Indexes are generally arranged alphabetically by subject; relevant citations follow each heading. The citation includes:

Author(s) of the journal article
Title of the journal article
    a list of abbreviation is located
    in the front of the index volume
Volume number, and if available, issue
    number of the journal
Page(s) on which the article appears
Date of the journal

title of article

Naming and power in Zora Neale Hurston's Their eyes were watching God. S. King. bibl *Black Am Lit Forum* 24:683-96 Wint' 90

volume number — date — author of article — title of journal (abbreviated) — pages — abbreviation

INDEX
Z
2001
M69

Annual Bibliography of English Language and Literature (ABELL) V. 1- 1920-

This index is useful for in-depth research. It indexes journals, bulletins, newsletters, etc. Arranged chronologically. Look in the table of contents in order to locate sections on 19th and 20th century American authors. Once you are in the correct section, look for your author by his or her name.

INDEX
PE
1
A2

Abstracts of English Studies
v. 1-21 1958-78 (22 1978-79) 23- 1979-

This is a quarterly index to articles (with short abstracts) dealing with American and English literature.

You find the author's name in a cumulated "Index C" in the back of each volume. Periodical abbrevia-tions are explained in "Index A".

Atkins Library subscribes to many of the journals indexed in this source.

INDEX
AI
3
E752

Essay and General Literature Index
1900-

This is an important bibliographical index to collections of essays in books. The emphasis is on the humanities and the social sciences. Material under a person (author, etc.) is arranged as follows: 1. Author's works; 2. Works about the author (biographical or overall discussions of his/her work); 3. Criticism. Semiannual with a permanent cumulation every five years.

Atkins Library purchases all of the books indexed, making this an especially useful source. Check ALADDIN call numbers.

INDEX
AI
3
R492

Humanities Index
1974-

Cumulative index to English-language periodicals. Author and subject entries are in one alphabet. It includes language and literature subjects as well as other humanities areas.

This is an excellent index for articles on African-American authors.

INDEX
AI
3
I57

Index to Black Periodicals
1984-

Index to Periodicals By and About Blacks
1973-1983

Index to Periodicals By and About Negroes
1960-70-72

Index to Selected Periodicals Received in the Hallie Q. Brown Library
1950-59

"An index to Afro-American periodicals of general and scholarly interest. Author and subject entries are interfiled in a single alphabet. Uses Library of Congress subject headings.

Microfilm
AI
3
G84

Guide to Negro Periodical Literature

Preceeds the above printed indexes. Use for in-depth research. Four volumes on one reel. Kept in the 2nd floor periodicals microfilm collection.

INDEX
Z
7006
M64

MLA-International Bibliography
1926-

The MLA is a major index to books and articles published on modern languages, literature, folklore, and linguistics. Since it is available in CD-ROM format starting with 1981, it is mainly useful for locating articles, books, and dissertations published prior to that time period.

From 1981 to the present, this index consists of two parts. Prior years were complete in one volume and are arranged in a similar fashion to Part 1 of the index as it is now formatted. Part 1 is arranged by country or type of literature and then by period and author. Volume I contains citations to British and American literature. Most references to African-American authors will be listed in the section "American Literature 1900-1999."

From Part 1, Volume I

Novel/Their Eyes Were Watching God (1937)

[9266] Carr, Pat; Crouther, Lou-Ann. "Pulling in the Horizon: Death, Sacrifice, and Rabies in Zora Neale Hurston's *Their Eyes Were Watching God*." *Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings Journal of Florida Literature* 1992; 4: 51-57. [†Treatment of rabies.]

[9267] Clark, W. Jean. "Zora Neale Hurston's *Their Eyes Were Watching God*: The Ephesian Love Mystery." *MAWA R* 1989 Dec; 4(2): 51-54. [†Treatment of love. Sources in New Testament: Ephesians.]

[9268] Daigarno, Emily. "'Words Walking without Masters': Ethnography and the Creative Process in *Their Eyes Were Watching God*." *AL* 1992 Sept; 64(3): 519-41. [†Role of ethnography in creative process.]

[9269] Daniel, Janice. "'De Understandin' to Go 'Long Wid It': Realism and Romance in *Their Eyes Were Watching God*." *SLJ* 1991 Fall; 24(1): 66-76. [†Realism.]

[9270] Haltenhauer, Darryl. "Hurston's *Their Eyes Were Watching God*." *Expl* 1992 Winter; 50(2): 111-12. [†Treatment of murder, justice.]

[9271] Holloway, Karla F. C. "Holy Heat: Rituals of the Spirit in Zora Neale Hurston's *Their Eyes Were Watching God*." *RAL* 1991 Autumn; 23(3): 127-41. [†Treatment of spiritual growth.]

Look up the abbreviations for periodical titles in the front pages of Part 1.

Part 2 is arranged in alphabetical order by subject and serves as an index to Part 1. The Roman numeral refers to the volume of Part 1 and the rest of the number to the specific entry.

Part 2 indicates the CLASSIFIED section in PART 1 for a given author or entry and also lists entries that will not be found directly under the author's name. Full citations are in Part 1.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

MLA on CD-ROM

The easiest way for you to search for recent journal articles on the works of an author or a literary topic will be to use the computerized version of the MLA International Bibliography. The volumes since 1981 to within a few months of the present are available in CD-ROM (compact disk, read only memory) format . This version of the MLA contains a year or so more information than the printed index. You may search by author, title of work, and by keyword. Two keywords, such as an author's last name and a theme or an identifying word from a title or theory, may be combined using "boolean" commands ("and," "or"). You will not need to search on the word "criticism" because just about everything in the index refers to criticism.

You may limit your search by language, by publication type, and by date of publication. There is a handout near the machines which explains how to use the various searching strategies. You are encouraged to make an appointment in advance to use MLA on CD-ROM. If you need assistance a librarian will help you.

Notes and WORD OF WARNING:

1. Both the printed and the computerized versions of the MLA International Bibliography contain references to books and doctoral dissertations as well as to articles. Atkins library does not have any of the dissertations. These will be listed as DAI in the printed version and Dissertations Abstracts International in the computerized version of the index. You can limit a search in the computer to find references by a specific publication type, for example, periodical articles and books, but **not** dissertations. (You enter the phrase **pt=journal article** and combine the result with the "set number" for your search.). The books listed are books of essays. Check for them in ALADDIN by the title of the book (not the book chapter) or by the editor's name (This comes after the word "IN" in the CD version). Also, there are many foreign language articles in the index. You can also limit your search by language when using the CD (For example: enter the phrase **la=english**. Combine this with your results from you search.). The library does not own all of the items referenced in the MLA. If we do not have the source you need, you may try to get it via interlibrary loan (this takes 2 to 4 weeks).

2. Finally, do not depend on either version of the MLA for all of your research. In many if not most cases, there will be better and easier-to-locate sources of information in books and reference books. The MLA is important for recent information. However, the MLA (both printed and CD-ROM versions) is not the best source for authors who have themselves recently (the time will vary) started publishing. If you do not find much about a new author in this source try InfoTrac, or, try Book Review Index or Book Review Digest.